NPA of UTI against Essar group

222. SHRIAMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Essar group account for 30 per cent of UTI non-performing assets other than US-64;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and since when it has became MPA; and

(c) what steps have been taken to recover that amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PAUL): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Involvement of Director, NCRB in Smuggling

223. SHRIAMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Customs official raided in August, 2001, the residence and farm house of Director of National Crime Records Bureau in connection with the multi-crore smuggling racket;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the details of incriminating documents/disproportionate assets recovered as a result thereof?

THE MINISTR OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The residence of Shri Harish Kumar, the then Director, National Crime Records Bureau and some other places were searched by officers of Customs and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) in August, 2001 in connection with seizure of consignments consisting of misdeclared aluminium and copper scrap as well as undeclared metals, namely, tin ingots and prime nickel cathodes, totally valued at Rs.9.23 crores (approx.) and involving estimated customs duty evasion of Rs. 1.4 crores (approx.) imported by M/s. Suren International Ltd., in which the wife and other relatives of Shri Harish Kumar are directors. No incriminating documents including documents relating to assets were recovered from the residence of Shri Harish Kumar. However, search of a godown of M/s. Suren International Ltd. at Vasant